- No Objection To Declassification in Full 2011/05/02 : LOC-HAK-187-5-13-5

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WITH POLICY

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- DESPITE AN ATTACK BY SEN. EDWARD M. KENNEDY, D-MASS., ON THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION FOR ALLOWING U.S.-EUROPEAN RELATIONS TO DETERIORATE, SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER HAS RENEWED HIS CRITICISM OF THE NATO ALLIES FOR FAILING TO SUPPORT AMERICAN EFFORTS IN THE MIDEAST.

KISSINGER, IN A MEETING FRIDAY WITH 15 NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION AMBASSADORS, EXPRESSED "DISAPPOINTMENT" OVER EUROPE'S FAILURE TO SUPPORT U.S. MILITARY RESUPPLY OF ISRAEL AND THE AMERICAN EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A MIDEAST CEASE-FIRE.

"THE GENERAL EXPRESSION OF THE AMBASSADORS WAS WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF DIPLOMACY," A STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL SAID.

KENNEDY, HOWEVER, IN A SENATE SPEECH, SAID THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAD BACKED PRESIDENT NIXON'S DECISION TO PUT AMERICAN TROOPS ON ALERT DURING THE MIDEAST HOSTILITIES, "I DID NOT AND CANNOT APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATION'S FAILURE TO TAKE OUR ALLIES INTO ITS CONFIDENCE."

HE CALLED THE ADMINISTRATION CRITICISM OF EUROPE, WHICH HAS ALSO BEEN VOICED BY PRESIDENT NIXON AND DEFENSE SECRETARY JAMES R. SCHLESINGER INCREDIBLE.

KENNEDY, WHO WAS IN EUROPE AT THE TIME OF THE CRISIS SAID: "A DECISION WAS MADE THAT COULD HAVE VITALLY AFFECTED OUR ALLIES, YET THERE WAS VIRTUALLY NO EFFORT ... TO INFORM THEM, MUCH LESS TO CONSULT.

"HERE IN WASHINGTON," KENNEDY ADDED, "THE ADMINISTRATION STILL SHOWS NO AWARENESS OF THE THREAT IT HAS POSED TO ALLIANCE COHESION."

KISSINGER, HOWEVER, WAS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE TOLD THE NATO AMBASSADORS THAT THE UNITED STATES HOPED FOR MORE DYNAMIC CONSULTATION AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE ATLANTIC ALLIES.

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